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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/614,833	07/12/2000	Rajugopal R. Gubbi	003498.P035	3152

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EXAMINER

VU, THONG H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2142

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Election/Restrictions

- I. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
- II. Claims 1-33, drawn to a computer network using MAC protocol wherein the header including multimedia extensions, control field. Classified in class 370/401.
- III. Claims 34-57, drawn to a computer network comprising a point coordinator function with text and audio/video, supporting DCF based contention period communications, negotiating bandwidth using DCF mechanism. Classified in class 370/468.

A. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I & II are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship. Distinctness is proven for claims in this relationship if the intermediate product is useful to make other than the final product (MPEP 806.04(b), 3rd paragraph), and the species are patentably distinct (MPEP 806.04(h)). Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions anticipated by the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

B. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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C. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Groups I & II are different, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

D. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicants are reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 CFR 1.48 (b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(h).

Thong Vu
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2142

